

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-27 (canceled)

Claim 28 (currently amended): A method of repelling ~~arthropods~~ ticks and mites comprising applying to a product, area or surface desired to be free of arthropods a repellent composition comprising at least one portion of the plant *Vitex agnus-castus* selected from the group consisting of extracts of said plant, parts of said plant, and combinations thereof.

Claim 29 (previously presented): The method of claim 28 wherein portions or extracts of the plant *Vitex agnus-castus* are selected from the group consisting of semen, fruits, leaves, stalks, roots, and combinations thereof.

Claim 30 (previously presented): The method of claim 28 wherein the product, area, or surface desired to be free of arthropods is selected from the group consisting of textiles, furs, food, and agricultural products.

Claim 31 (previously presented): The method of claim 28 wherein the composition further comprises at least one dermatologically acceptable carrier.

Claim 32 (previously presented): The method of claim 28 wherein the composition further comprises at least one ingredient used for skin care of humans or animals.

Claim 33 (previously presented): The method of claim 28 wherein the composition further comprises at least one perfume.

Claim 34 (previously presented): The method of claim 28 wherein the composition further comprises an antioxidant.

Claim 35 (previously presented): The method of claim 34 wherein the antioxidant is selected from selected from the group consisting of 6-O-palmitoyl-L-ascorbic acid, 2,6-di-tert-butyl-4-methylphenol, and combinations thereof.

Claim 36 (previously presented): The method of claim 28 wherein the composition further comprises a UV absorber.

Claim 37 (previously presented): The method of claim 36 wherein the UV absorber is selected from the group consisting of titanium oxide, octyl methoxycinnamate, and combinations thereof.

Claim 38 (previously presented): The method of claim 28 wherein the composition further comprises a second repellent compound.

Claim 39 (previously presented): The method of claim 38 wherein the second repellent compound is selected from the group consisting of N,N-diethyl-m-toluamide; dimethyl phthalate; N,N-diethylbenzamide; 2-ethyl-hexane-1,3-diol; p-methane-3,8-diol; isopulegol; 1-piperidine carboxylic acid; hydroxy-ethyl-isobutyl piperidine-carboxylate; essential oils of plants other than Vitex agnus-castus; derivatives of the foregoing, and combinations of all of the foregoing.

Claim 40 (previously presented): The method of claim 28 wherein the product, area or surface desired to be free of arthropods is selected from the group consisting of skin, hair, and clothes.

Claim 41 (previously presented): The method of claim 28 wherein the arthropods are lymph- or bloodsucking insects and/or skin-penetrating arthropods.

Claim 42 (canceled)

Claim 43 (currently amended): ~~An arthropod~~ A repellent composition for repelling ticks and mites, comprising extracts, and/or parts of the plant *Vitex agnus-castus*, and a component selected from the group consisting of N,N-diethyl-m-toluamide dimethyl phthalate, 2-ethyl-hexane-1,3-diol, isopulegol, 1-piperidine carboxylic acid, hydroxy-ethyl-isobutyl-piperidine-carboxylate, and combinations thereof.

Claim 44 (previously presented): The composition of claim 43 further comprising components for protection of food, animals, plants or stored materials.

Claim 45 (currently amended): The composition of claim 43, wherein the portions of the plant or extracts are selected from the group consisting of semen, fruits, leaves, stalks, ~~or roots of *Vitex agnus-castus*~~ and combinations thereof.

Claims 46 – 52 (canceled)